

good order. Here is a case where non-ethnics are conscientious and try not to misrepresent, but to do full justice to the nation they represent. Such groups should be encouraged.

19. **INDIA:** Ruth St. Denis had all the right to represent India. Many years ago, several generations now, she was the first Westerner to acquaint Westerners with the Hindu dance. She and Shawn glorified Hindu dancing and raised it to a high pedestal, proving to the American that Oriental dancing is not Hootchy-Cutchee and Burlesque stuff a la Minsky's or "French Apache". She is an ancient, must be well in her eighties, but on the stage she looked lovely. Her hand movements were still delightful, tho her feet are now heavy. St. Denis represents beautiful old age, and youthfulness of body and spirit.

20. **HAITI:** The first number, Siye Siye, looked too much like the too familiar Afro-Cuban stuff. Nothing outstanding. But Le Mouse in his "Houdango" was like something gone bersek, or "possessed." He certainly possessed fantastic movements. He was **GOOD** in Capital Letters and underlined, too.

The program closed with the entire group entering upon the stage, and all singing the National Anthem, which made a most colorful scene.

All in all, inspite of the irksome misrepresentations, and dance studio stuff, it was a very pleasurable festival. Each group did their part well, no matter what they danced. Paul Erfer was the co-ordinator of the successful festival.

VFB

#### WASHINGTON, D. C. FESTIVAL

A trip around the world in music and dance is in store for you when you attend the 1954 Washington Folk Festival to be held at Cardozo Center Auditorium on May 6, 7 and 8. The National Capital's Folk Festival of All Nations will feature the traditional songs and dances of countries from all over the world—presented by your neighbors in the greater Washington area.

There will be a different program all three nights—each one just as educational as it is interesting and entertaining. They will include folk music, both instrumental and vocal; dance demonstrations by nationality groups; a costume promenade in which participants dressed in the authentic costumes of their homelands will tell you interesting details about their traditional dress; and opportunity for the audience to join in the fun of folk dancing.

More than 30 different nationality groups will be represented, including: Thailand, Greece, Ireland, Scotland, the Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Bavaria, Iran, Pakistan, Switzerland, South America, and the Philippines. American Indian dances and a cross-section of square dancing as done throughout the USA will complete the program of world-wide folk music and dancing.

The Washington Folk Festival provides a unique opportunity for you to enjoy an evening of entertainment and at the same time broaden your understanding of your own community (all participants are from the greater Washington area) and your world neighbors. Here's a chance for you to witness the wealth of traditional folk art still very much alive in your own city—and to introduce yourself to the fun of recreational dancing. Don't miss! Come each night! And treat yourself to the Dance Party on Saturday afternoon.

D. R.

#### JERRY JORIS TO TEACH IN ENGLAND

During her European tour Jerry was engaged to teach a class in square dancing in Surrey, England. The engagement was made through Mr. and Mrs. Alan Parry, now touring the U. S. A.

#### DAVE ROSENBERG'S CHICAGO INSTITUTE

Dave Rosenberg's teaching skill and showmanship, so familiar to Washington, D.C. dancers, captivated three institute sessions of Chicagoans on March 12th and 13th.

Under the sponsorship of folk dancers led by Beth and Charles Fawkes, Dave conducted one evening and two day-time meetings at the gymnasium of St. Paul's Church, on Chicago's south side. A capacity crowd, including visitors from six states, welcomed Dave on Friday evening, followed by an only slightly smaller attendance on Saturday morning and afternoon.

Assisting Dave was Nancy Kane, also of Washington, a most charming and talented young folk dancer. They performed and taught a variety of dances, many of them new to the Chicago area. Clever and humorous touches were added to the institute situation by such props as quick changes of accessories, a beard or moustache, an apron, a pair of red boots, or actual costume changes in keeping with the dance being presented.

The gymnasium was gay with posters from all over the world, and the flags of many nations gave an atmosphere of international festivity. Where Dave Rosenberg is concerned there is no wasted time, and interims such as a noon sandwich hour on Saturday (with coffee served from a quaint, flower filled cart), were occupied with discussions of all sorts, movies of other festivals, and costume lore. Against the vivid blue sky of an Alpine scene, the backdrop on the stage, hung a line of costumes, many of them traditional and priceless, some actually the handiwork of Dave himself. Nancy described how costumes can be made by a careful analysis of authentic costumes. Being able to see at close hand, after learning a dance that accompanied a given costume, as well as being able to see movies of ethnic groups in similar dances, made Nancy's theme thrilling as well as instructive.

The fine cooperation of group members who served on committees was a wonderful thing, and the resulting good time and the opportunity to meet other folk dancers marked a high spot in the history of Chicago folk dancing.

—B. F.

#### A NEW PLACE TO FOLK DANCE

The new million-and-a-half dollar Westside Jewish Community Center, 5870 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, will open its doors on May 6, 8:30 p.m., to folk dancing with a huge folk dance celebration under the capable leadership of Sally Kestenberg and Herman Wiener. After that initial celebration, dancing will be one of the weekly activities of the center.

#### OHIO UKRAINIAN GROUPS BACK IN ACTION

The Ukrainian Youth groups are always well organized, and as a rule they also have excellent dance groups, but most of Ohio's dance groups underwent a period of hibernation. Since the arrival of George Rusyn, a very competent Ukrainian dance instructor, there was a marked revival. There are now folk dance groups again in Cleveland, Youngstown and Akron.

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V. F. Beliajus, 1402 7th, San Diego 1, Cal.



I was awakened from my sleep during the early hours of the morning on March 19th. My bed seemed to sway from side to side. The feeling was rather most pleasing to the sensation, as if cradeling and putting me back into delightful slumber, and I was rocked to sleep. At that time, 1:55 A. M., I was too sleepy to think of anything else. It was only on the following morning, upon seeing the bold headlines in the paper that I discovered I experienced my first actual earthquake which was of 5 intensity (12 is the apex). Originally I thought I'd be scared to death of an earthquake, but I sure enjoyed that one. Of course, I didn't know it was one.

The week-end of April 2-4 was one of many supriises in form of reunions. On April 3rd I conducted a class at UCLA which Phys. Ed. Dept. is headed by Dr. Alma Hawkins, a good pal with whom I have been associated in one form and another for a great number of years when she still resided in Chicago and headed the same activity at George Williams College. It was the first time I've seen her in about three years. Into that class walked in Dr. Anthony Brunse, an ex-folk dancer of mine who was associated with me in the Lithuanian (LYS) group and International House. I haven't seen him in about 15 years. This sure was a surprise. He now heads the psychiatric department at the huge Veterans Hospital of Los Angeles (Brentwood). The following Monday in walks John Pietruszkiewicz who just returned from Hawaii with a wife and a most darling ever-smiling baby. John is from New Jersey. When he was stationed at Great Lakes he made home with me in Chicago. He last saw me all stretched out at JCRS while en route to Hawaii, and it was sure good to see him and his newly acquired family under happier circumstances.

April first also marked one year since I left Spivak, and (no fooling) it was a happy year. Much has taken place since then. Because these last few years and those which are Merciful One is still to grant me, are the gifts of the Divine Life-giver, I shall try my utmost (considering my limitations) to make them worthy years, and to spread Our Lord's command "To have love (and to bring love) toward one another." Please know that I am ALWAYS mindful of your friendship and your sincere rallying for my sake during those years of great despair. Continue, please, to bear me in mind during your prayers.

June will see me on the road again and I'll be travelling until mid September. Teaching engagements will take me through Oregon, Washington, California, Colorado, Illinois, Ohio and New Jersey. Once again I'm looking forward to many happy reunions. Meanwhile, until next VILTIS I send you all my love. God be with you all.

Pasimatysim

VYTS-FIN

#### The KOLO Center

On the West Coast is at . . .

3257 East 14th Street

Oakland 1, California

John Filcich



Lupa-Mitchell

Tall, Oklahoma-born Chicagoan, John Mitchell who was ye editor's chauffeur this past summer, "done got married up" with Christine Lupa on March 14. he wedding took place in Chicago and the same day both attended the Dave Rosenberg Folk Dance Institute which was then held. Those present danced in their honor the Jewish Wedding Dance (???) Neither of the two are Jewish but probably Southern Baptists, yet, folk dance people recognize only brotherhood of all men. John is quite a folk singer and his interest is expanding. See his articles in this issue. Christine is a native Oregonian, fell for folk dancing during a session in Berkeley where yours truly presided at Harvey LeBrun's sponsored event. Since then she, too, became quite a folk dancer. To the newlyweds my sincerest congratulations. All those who attended the Stockton camp last year, and all others, likewise join in the felicitations.

Wood-Benedict

Portland's dashing Don Benedict, known not only among Oregonians but along the entire Pacific coast as a good leader (YMCA), good folk dancer and excellent Kolomaniac, well, Don "done got married up" with Verna Wood. (Regretfully I do not know any information about the bride, but she must be a swell person.) The wedding took place on March 14 at Hoquiam, Wash. Very sincerest wishes for a most happy wedded life from us all.

Wolfram-Perry

Jeanne Eva Wolfram and Lawrence Burtis Perry were married in San Francisco on April 18. Larry and Jeanne are a well-loved couple and wonderful youngsters, both stemming from folk dance backgrounds and Larry's mother is in it neck deep. Everyone joins us to extend to these swell kids and their families all the felicitations and good fortune for health and happiness.

#### IDYLLWILD CAMP

##### STAFF

We are very happy to have our much loved Vyts Beliajus, Lucille Czarnewsky, and Millie von Kinsky as specialists on the staff. Helen Yost, Director of the Jarabe Dancers of Pasadena and Vivian Woll, Folk Dance leader from San Diego, and Edith Stevenson who will conduct a class in castanet rhythms, will also be on the staff.

Besides the folk adnce program - A special feature of the Idyllwild worshop is the Children's Program offered while parents are free to enjoy Folk Dancing and other Camp activities.

The Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts offer activities and experiences in Art, Crafts, Dance, Music, Dramatic Play, Nature Lore and Swimming under a staff of experienced teachers headed by Barbara Lea Johnson. A nursery school group . . . . . Ages 2½ - 4 Kindergarten - Primary group . . . . . Ages 5 - 8 Intermediate Group . . . . . Ages 9 - 13 Cldre children may participate in a special program giving more time to Dancing, Arts, Crafts, Dramatics, Painting and Modeling.

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For further information write —

Elma McFarland

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